

EYE ON

Kirkwood *newsletter*

CITY OF KIRKWOOD AWARDED \$1.5 MILLION GRANT FOR TRAIN STATION RESTORATION

The City of Kirkwood received notice that it was awarded a Transportation Alternatives program grant through the East-West Gateway Council of Governments for the Historic Kirkwood Train Station Restoration project that the City is undertaking in conjunction with the Historic Kirkwood Train Station Foundation. The \$1.5 million award will support various interior and exterior renovations to the train station such as; a new roof, heating and cooling system, window and door restoration, ADA compliant restrooms and ticket counter, an accessory storage building, as well as a covered exterior platform for train passengers.

The Train Station Foundation has been hard at work raising the \$4.6 million needed to complete the project. This grant, along with generous donations from individual donors and grants already received by the Foundation, brings the amount raised to date for the project to \$2,268,367.00, or nearly half-way to the estimated \$4.6 million cost of this exciting project that will be the station's first renovation since 1941.

The Foundation is continuing its fundraising efforts, via a GoFundMe page and other programs, to reach their \$4.9 million goal, as construction is not expected to start until 2024. You can support the Historic Train Station Foundation's fundraising efforts by mailing a contribution to this address:

The Historic Kirkwood Train Station Foundation 101 W Argonne Drive, Kirkwood, MO 63122

KIRKWOOD & DES PERES BEGIN POLICE, FIRE AND EMS DISPATCHING PARTNERSHIP

The cities of Kirkwood and Des Peres have executed a 5-year dispatching partnership in which all emergency 911 calls originating within Des Peres city limits will be handled by the City of Kirkwood including police, fire and emergency medical service. This decision was formalized by both cities in early-January with an official cutover date of April 1 following months of careful planning and cooperation between the two cities to ensure a seamless transition.

Kirkwood operates a joint dispatching operation as an extension of their Police and Fire departments in which Glendale and Warson Woods are currently members. Des Peres has contracted with Kirkwood for Fire & EMS dispatching services since 2016 and will now expand that arrangement to include calls for police service. The decision for Des Peres to outsource emergency dispatching to Kirkwood using a consolidated format was motivated almost entirely by cost.

Standalone dispatching centers are becoming rare in the St. Louis region given the extraordinary costs associated with maintaining the technology and infrastructure, training employees on new equipment and protocols, and meeting accreditation standards. These financial and operating burdens make it highly attractive for smaller cities like Des Peres to combine operations into regional assets that serve a broader population, a trend that has emerged over the past two decades with great success. Today, these centralized dispatching centers, such as the dispatch center Kirkwood operates, dominate the St. Louis market and represent nearly 75% of all dispatching services provided to the region.

KIRKWOOD ELECTRIC RAKES IN INDUSTRY AWARDS

Kirkwood Electric has been designated a 2021 Tree Line USA utility by the Arbor Day Foundation, and a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3 designation) by the American Public Power Association (APPA). They are also the recipients of the 2020 Safety Award of Excellence from the APPA. Each award is a reflection of the hard work and dedication demonstrated by Kirkwood Electric personnel every day on the job. Kirkwood Electric is committed to delivering safe and reliable electricity to the Kirkwood community, and prioritizing the health and safety of their utility workers, no matter what.

**KIRKWOOD-DES PERES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
YOUTH IN ACTION**

FOOD DRIVE

WISH LIST ITEMS:

Canned meats & stews
Canned fruit
Pudding & fruit cups
Jelly/jams
Peanut butter
Pasta and pasta sauces
Complete meal kits & mixes
Dessert mixes and icing
Low sugar cereals
Pancake/muffin mixes
Saltine/Graham crackers

BENEFITING KIRK CARE

**DROP OFF AT THE MAGIC HOUSE
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
NOW THRU JUNE 10TH**



Questions? Keith Rawlings at 314-398-0576 or keith4yia@hotmail.com